

UNITED STATES
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

JUN 5 - 1951

Mr. L. B. Skinner
Secretary, Canadian Board on Geographic Names
Ottawa, Canada

My dear Mr. Skinner:

There are three major North American mountain systems on which we would appreciate information from Canada to assist us in rewording the descriptions on our old decisions: Cascade Range, Coast Ranges, and Rocky Mountains.

The Cascade Range, extending from south of Lassen Peak in California, through Oregon and Washington, crosses into British Columbia east of the Fraser River valley. How far north do the Canadians consider that this range extends? Is Canadian usage definitely Cascade Mountains instead of Cascade Range as is used in the United States?

The Coast Ranges, as applied in California, Oregon, and Washington, seem to be delimited on the north by the Strait of Juan de Fuca; we have not found the name applied by the Canadians to the mountains of Vancouver Island or northward. The Coast Mountains on the Canadian mainland probably cannot be construed as being a continuation of the Coast Ranges of the United States. It appears then that neither the Coast Ranges nor the Coast Mountains is a U.S.-Canadian international feature. Do you agree with us in this interpretation?

What is the northern limit for the application of the name Rocky Mountains in Canada? In this case, as in all cases, we base the application of the name on usage rather than on technical geological structure.

We should very much appreciate your comments as to Canadian usage of these three names.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Meredith F. Burrill
Meredith F. Burrill
Executive Secretary

EMF, AB:clz
cc: General
Reading
Case